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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9188
INFO RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 0810
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0318
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
RUEAUSA/DEPT OF HHS WASHINGTON DC

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DEPARTMENT FOR EEB AND IO PASS TO USTR: TANUJA GARDE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ETRD KIPR PREL CS

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR WHO IGWG BY COSTA RICA

REF: STATE 144926

- 11. Econoffs met with officials of the Costa Rican Ministry of Foreign Trade (COMEX) on November 8 to discuss the USG position cited in Reftel targeting countries supporting the Latin American position advocated by Brazil. Post originally presented the USG position to COMEX on October 23 but the CAFTA-DR implementation process continues to dominate COMEX's agenda, delaying responses on other issues.
- 12. COMEX officials state that the GOCR does not support the position of Brazil nor does it support the position of the USG. The position of GOCR is between the two positions due to Costa Rica's concerns about social fairness. The Minister of Health, Maria Luisa Avila, developed the GOCR position. COMEX added that the GOCR does not consider its position to be counter to the intellectual property requirements of FTAs.

BRENNAN